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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

7 FEBRUARY 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Danville - City Officials Say Teen Carved Swastika into Hillside

(U) A 16-year-old Danville boy has been determined to be the culprit behind a large swastika that was carved into a community center hillside last week, a town spokesman said Monday. The boy is "being held accountable," according to a town spokesman, who noted laws protecting juvenile offenders limits information the city can release about law enforcement's course of action involving the boy. No charges had been filed in the incident.

SOURCE: 6 February 2017, Mercury News

(U) Los Angeles – Three Arrested in 93 Arson Fire

(U) Three people with alleged ties to the 18th Street gang were arrested in what prosecutors called the deadliest arson in California history, the intentionally set 1993 fire at a Los Angeles apartment building that killed 12 people, including two unborn babies. An unnamed fourth suspect wanted in connection with the nearly quarter-century old case has fled the country, authorities said at a press conference, and remains a fugitive. Prosecutors believe the blaze in the city's Westlake neighborhood was started by members of the gang in May of 1993 to intimidate the apartment manager and others who sought to drive drug dealers from the property.

SOURCE: 6 February 2017, Reuters

(U) San Pedro – Heroin Use Fuels Surge in ER Visits

(U) California's millennials continue to flood hospital emergency departments because of heroin, a trend that has increased steadily statewide over the past five years, according to the latest figures. The state data released last week shows that in the first three months of 2016, 412 adults age 20 to 29 went to emergency departments due to heroin. That's double the number for the same time period in 2012. Overall, emergency department visits among heroin users of all ages increased, but the sharpest was among the state's young adults. About 1,500 emergency department visits by California's millennials poisoned by heroin were logged in 2015 compared with fewer than 1,000 in 2012.

SOURCE: 6 February 2017, Mercury News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida – Phishing Attack Threatens Thousands of School Employees' Private Data

(U) Manatee – An email phishing scheme perpetrated against the School District of Manatee County resulted in the names, addresses, wages and Social Security numbers of more than 7,700 school employees being handed over to hackers. The hackers obtained the W2's of everyone who worked for the school district in 2016 when a school district payroll employee provided the information to the hackers, responding to a fraudulent email that appeared to have been sent by the superintendent. Just last week, the IRS released a warning about this particular scam, which made the rounds last year as well. According to the IRS, cyber criminals are targeting schools and nonprofits this year. SOURCE: 6 February 2017, <u>Bradenton</u>

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(U) Florida – Schreiber Sentenced to 30 Years in Prison for Mosque Fire

(U) Orlando – A Florida man pleaded no contest and was sentenced yesterday to 30 years in prison for setting fire last year to the mosque where Orlando nightclub shooter Omar Mateen once worshipped. Joseph Schreiber, 32, caused more than \$100,000 in damage to the Islamic Center of Fort Pierce, which he set ablaze on 11 September 2016, the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, authorities said. No one was hurt, but the fire forced the congregation to relocate prayer services as it seeks a new home. Schreiber told police after his arrest in September that his attack on the mosque had nothing to do with Mateen. Schreiber told investigators he viewed the teachings of Islam as a national security threat. Police previously said Schreiber's Facebook page included anti-Muslim rhetoric.

SOURCE: 6 February 2017, Reuters

(U) North Dakota – US Could Grant Final Permit for Pipeline Soon

(U) Standing Rock – The US Army secretary could make a decision on the final permit needed to complete the controversial Dakota Access Pipeline as soon as Friday, the government's lawyer told a Washington DC court on yesterday. Opponents argue that letting the pipeline cross under Lake Oahe, a reservoir that is the water source for the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, would damage sacred lands and could leak oil into the tribe's water supply. Proponents believe the pipeline is necessary to transport U.S. oil safely and that it would create jobs. It is unclear whether construction could begin while the decision is challenged or whether the court will grant an injunction blocking the work.

SOURCE: 6 February 2017, Reuters

(U) Pennsylvania - A Federal Reserve Bank President Concerned About Cyber Threats to Small Banks

(U) Philadelphia – Yesterday a Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank President said he is increasingly concerned about cyber threats to small banks, citing hackers stealing money by exploiting third-party vendors that provide cyber-security to many small banks. While large banks often build internal security systems, small banks often outsource their cyber security to specialized firms. He reported that when he surveys banks about their concerns each year, cyber security is the foremost concern.

SOURCE: 6 February 2017, Reuters

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – At Least 20 Dead in Bomb Blast Outside Afghan Supreme Court

(U) Kabul – At least 20 people were killed today in a bomb blast outside the Supreme Court in the center of Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, government officials said, in what appeared to be the latest in a series of attacks on the judiciary. The Ministry of Public Health said at least 20 people were killed and 38 injured people were taken to city hospitals. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack, in which police said an apparent suicide bomber targeted Supreme Court employees leaving their offices at the end of the working day.

SOURCE: 7 February 2017, Reuters

(U) Austria – Turkish Islamist Hackers Claim Cyber Attack

(U) Vienna – Austria's parliament reported a Turkish Islamist hackers' group had claimed responsibility for a cyber-attack that brought down its website for 20 minutes this weekend. Aslan Neferler Tim (ANT), or Lion Soldiers Team, whose website says it defends the homeland, Islam, the nation and flag, without any party political links, claimed the attack. An Interior Ministry spokesman said today that an investigation had begun into the cyber-attack and, declining to elaborate further, noted that no data had been lost.

SOURCE: 7 February 2017, Reuters

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(U) El Salvador – Authorities Arrest 22 Fisherman for Alleged Drug Trafficking

(U) San Salvador – El Salvadoran officials arrested 22 fishermen accused of working for Mexican drug traffickers and seized an unspecified amount of money, vehicles, boats and weapons. Federal police said in a statement that the fishermen had carried out "drug trafficking logistics" under the orders of Francesco Monroy, a former Guatemalan military man accused of moving cocaine for Mexico's Sinaloa and Gulf cartels. Monroy was captured and extradited to the United States in 2016. The group of fishermen is allegedly linked to two seizures last year of 880 pounds of cocaine, on a route that begins in Ecuador, crosses the Salvadoran Pacific and ends in the municipality of Iztapa in Guatemala.

SOURCE: 6 February 2017, Reuters

(U) Iraq – US Embassy in Iraq Reports Threats Against Hotels

(U) Baghdad – The US embassy in Baghdad said yesterday it has limited the movement of its personnel after receiving "credible threats of possible attacks on hotels frequented by Westerners". It did not give details on the nature of threat. US authorities advise citizens to avoid traveling to Iraq citing the risk of being kidnapped by armed political groups or criminal gangs and bombings by the group Islamic State in Iraq and Levant.

SOURCE: 6 February 2017, Reuters

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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